

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method for converting packet-based voice data of a first format directly to packet-based voice data of a second format, and vice versa. Data from networks using non-compatible packet-based voice technologies, for example, VoATM and VoIP, are interworked for direct conversion. Connection is set between an edge gateway of a first voice packet network, having data in a first format, and an interworking unit (IWU). Another connection is set between this IWU and an edge gateway of a second voice packet network, having data in the second format. The IWU is controlled by a single call agent that co-ordinates the conversion, at the IWU, between the two packet formats. Because it has this capability, this call agent is also called the "conversion server". This call agent may be identical to the call agent used to control one or both edge gateways that use different packet based technologies.